

# FEEDING WILDLIFE



Many people enjoy wildlife visiting their gardens and encourage these visits by leaving food for their animal friends. This may appear kind and helpful...but is it?

## 6 GOOD REASONS NOT TO FEED WILDLIFE

1. Supplementary food may be nutritionally inadequate and result in health problems to the animal and its offspring. Each species requires nutrients from its own natural food sources.
2. Wildlife may become dependent on this supplemental food and subsequent generations will lack the skills necessary to recognise and find their own natural food sources.
3. The number of animals in an area is controlled by the availability of food. By introducing a source of additional food more young will be produced.
4. An increase in the number of animals leads to competition for natural food sources and increases aggressive behavior both within and among other species.
5. Feeding a number of animals especially birds increases the risk of spreading disease among them: a current major concern within our parrot populations.
6. You may move or go on holidays resulting in the animals' starvation because of its dependency on your food source.

## IF YOU'RE STILL NOT CONVINCED...

1. Feed only **occasionally** to prevent them becoming dependent.
2. Feed only **good quality nectar** to lorikeets, **good quality seed** mix to parrots and **good quality duck pellets** to water fowl.
3. For meat eating birds use only **low fat mince** with **Wombaroo insectivore** supplement added to provide good nutrition.
4. Create a worm farm to feed species such as magpies.

HELP US MAKE A DIFFERENCE



Ringtail Possum

**Do NOT feed bread or food scraps. These have little or no nutritional value for any of our wildlife species.**

**In hot weather put WATER out for wildlife making sure some is above ground level.**

**Plant native FEED trees, shrubs and grasses, these are a natural food source.**

**Join AWARE, a Friends Group in your local Reserve or become involved in re-vegetation projects.**



Rainbow Lorikeet